

Circular L11/06

28 December 2006

**Web-enabled Project Control System**  
**for Water Services Investment Programme**

A new web-enabled Project Control System (PCS), the subject of this Circular, has been developed by the Water Services National Training Group (WSNTG) using Project Vision software as a direct response to user feedback from local authorities. The web-enabled PCS was introduced to local authority personnel at a WSNTG Seminar on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2006.

**The Project Control System (PCS)**

The web-enabled PCS has been developed by the WSNTG to assist local authorities to manage the planning, procurement and construction stages of projects in accordance with the Water Services Procedures Manual (which is also being updated). As a management tool the web-enabled PCS can provide very significant assistance to local authorities with the advancement of the large volume of water services schemes in the current WSIP. Compliance with the requirements of the PCS should henceforth be specified in Consultant's Briefs for every scheme being funded under the WSIP.

The PCS will assist local authorities to adopt a consistent "best practice" approach to project management of all water and wastewater schemes. It is not a substitute for, but is an aid to, competent project management. The

web-enabled PCS will help local authorities in this regard by providing detailed on-line guidance together with monitoring mechanisms that will allow ongoing project progress to be measured and reviewed.

### **Implementation of the web-enabled PCS**

The web-enabled PCS can be accessed using a web browser (Explorer 5.5 or higher) at [www.wsntg.ie/pcs.asp](http://www.wsntg.ie/pcs.asp). A User Name and Password is required and may be obtained from Cora Systems ( freephone Cora Systems at 1800 940 940 or e-mail [PCSSupport@corasystems.com](mailto:PCSSupport@corasystems.com)).

In order to link properly to the local authority's Financial Management System, a standard set of Op Codes for use on all water services projects has been developed and is attached.

### **Training Workshops for Local Authority Staff**

Training workshops at the WSNTG Regional Training Centres have been organised for local authority staff who will be involved in using the web-enabled PCS. A schedule of these workshops is also available at [www.wsntg.ie/pcs.asp](http://www.wsntg.ie/pcs.asp). Workshops are targeted to meet the differing needs of users e.g. light user/management overview, advanced administration, advanced technical. To ensure that relevant personnel are equipped to effectively implement the system it is important that they should avail of the training being provided. It would be appreciated if you would ensure that relevant staff are facilitated and encouraged to attend the workshops and that bookings are made through the Regional Training Centre Managers as early as possible.

### **Setting Up Web-enabled PCS**

An Information Note for Managers/Directors of Services containing set up guidance for Heads of Finance and I.T. is also available at [www.wsntg.ie/pcs.asp](http://www.wsntg.ie/pcs.asp). The benefits to be obtained from the extraction and reporting of scheme expenditure from the local authority's Financial

Management System in web-enabled PCS will be optimised if the standard operational codes (Op Codes) set out in the Appendix attached to this circular are utilised on all water services capital projects from now on.

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To: City and County Managers

CC: Directors of Services (Water Services)